



From a Drawing by Dean Babcock

BULLETIN

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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

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ROBERT STERLING YARD
Executive Secretary

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PROTEST AGAINST SECRETARY FALL'S ALL YEAR PARK

*The People Everywhere Aroused and Waiting—Storm Center Developing in New Mexico,
Where Hundreds are Objecting on Grounds of State Pride—Mescalero
Bill Has a Picturesque Past*

THE "MESCALERO BILL"

**Masking the All-Year National Park Project, Which
Will Bring Into the National Park System Water
Power, Irrigation, Hunting, Mining, Graz-
ing, Leasing of Industrial Privileges, and
the Deputing of Power to Make and
Surrender National Park Areas**

On July 7 the United States Senate passed the Mescalero Indian Reservation bill "defining the rights of the Mescalero Apache Indians in the Mescalero Indian Reservation, New Mexico, providing an allotment of certain lands therein in severalty to the Mescalero Apache Indians, and creating the All-Year National Park."

The text was written by Secretary Fall, who, in letters to the Senate Committee, strongly urged its "immediate adoption." Senator Bursum, who introduced it, told the Senate that it was "purely local in its character and affected only New Mexico."

Yet the All-Year Park, if made a National Park, would introduce into the System water power, irrigation, hunting, mining, grazing, leasing of commercial privileges, timber cutting, and the deputing to others than Congress the power to create and surrender National Parks areas.

The safety of the entire National Parks System from commercialism depends on its defeat.

As the Indian Reservation part of the bill preceded the National Park part, the bill was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs instead of to the Public Lands Committee which has passed upon National Parks legislation for fifty years and is familiar with the law, the tradition and the attitude of the people toward National Parks. Referring the bill elsewhere was a repetition of Senator Walsh's strategy with the bill to dam Yellowstone Lake.

Urged by Secretary Fall, the Indian Affairs Committee promptly reported it favorably without a public hearing, and seven days later Senator Bursum got it passed in a few perfunctory minutes at the close of a weary day of tariff debate.

After a few questions which did not bring out its effect on the National Parks System, and a rapid reading, the bill was passed without debate. One Senator present explained afterward to an inquiring constituent that he received no hint at this session of the National Park joker. He gathered merely that it did belated justice to an Indian tribe and that the Secretary of the Interior wanted it passed.

It is now in the Indian Affairs Committee of the House.

SINCE the United States Senate, under the personal urging of Secretary Fall, passed the Mescalero Indian Reservation bill in ignorance of the meaning of its All-Year National Park attachment, the campaign to save the National Parks System from this new peril has fairly defined itself. The bill is now in the House, where it has been referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. It will be known in the House under its Senate number, S. 3519.

When the House convened on August 15, after its summer recess, the committee found awaiting it protests from many individuals and from organizations of great size and influence in different parts of the United States. But no general campaign had yet been inaugurated. The people were waiting.

Under date of August 17, Chairman Homer P. Snyder of the Indian Affairs Committee, wrote us noting the protest and assuring us that no action would be taken during that session; a public hearing would be called in December, at the beginning of the short session.

Choice of Two Methods of Saving the System

At first glance it seemed unfortunate that the confirmation of rights which the Indians have held only by proclamation since President Grant's time should be doomed to defeat by the necessity to save our National Parks System, but this need not be.

It is in the power of the Committee on Indian Affairs to do justice to the Indians and save the National Parks System, also, in one of two ways: either to disentangle the National Park provision from the present bill, so as to permit each measure to stand or fall on its own merits, or to change the classification of the All-Year park in the present bill to some other than the National Parks System.

The latter would involve less work, for Secretary Fall, whose personal draft of the bill is the one before Congress, had woven the two measures into a texture which will be difficult to separate into its parts.

Two Earlier Mescalero Bills

This is the third bill to establish a national park in the Mescalero Indian Reservation. In 1913, Senator Fall introduced and urged a bill to make the entire reservation a national park. This first bill failed, and in 1916, he introduced a second.

As the Mescaleros have no vested rights in their property, the reservation being one of the Executive Order kind, the Indian Rights Association attacked Senator Fall's bills

on the ground that they would rob the Indians of all rights except only that of living on the property, and protested also against the propriety of his pushing a measure in the Senate which obviously would increase the value of his adjacent properties.

This Association's public circular before us gives no other details, and at this writing we cannot state whether the first bills introduced special privileges into the National Parks System. Since they made mere tenants of the Mescaleros, just as a dozen Digger Indians are now permitted to live in Yosemite National Park, they may have been safe from the national park point of view. Certainly no national park protest was made at the time. The bills were defeated only because of their injustice to the Indians.

One inference appears permissible. Since the present bill takes minute care of the Mescaleros, thus eliminating the Indian Rights Association from opposition, its principal purpose, as was openly that of its predecessors, may be assumed to be to create the national park.

The former bill added no spots outside the reservation.

An Association to Put It Over

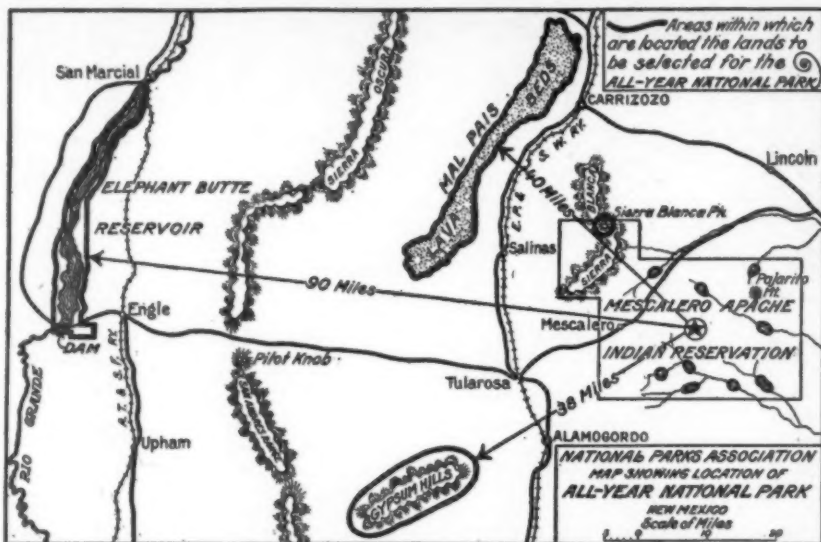
Several months before the present bill was introduced, it was decided to create an association to assume responsibility for it and to make it appear that New Mexico was a unit in demanding its passage. A state conference was called ostensibly to select a national park but the northern delegates found it packed for the All Year Park. El Paso alone had sent a hundred delegates. The advocates of all other sites were shouted down; several were voted out of the meeting. A representative of each of seven neighborhood counties and two of El Paso, Texas, were selected an executive committee. The State has 26 counties.

El Paso, one of the wealthiest and most enterprising cities of its size in the country, is less than a hundred miles south by rail. Her special interest now is the Elephant Butte reservoir, ninety miles across a desert from the main grouping of other spots constituting the proposed national park, but after the United States Government necessarily builds roads to connect all the park spots, her motorists will have hundreds of miles of new driving. Newspapers talk of making a circle system by connecting these coming national roads with a popular El Paso resort south of the Reservation. The plans also involve the Government encircling the reservoir with a superb hundred miles highway.

The name chosen for the organization was "Southwestern All-Year National Park Association," the purpose of the word "Southwestern" apparently being to promote the impression that this was not a local scheme but demanded by a large section of the country. It was this association, according to Senator Bursum, which prepared the original draft of the bill.

The Revolt in New Mexico

But New Mexicans generally are hot against having the State misrepresented in the magnificent National Parks System by a park of little isolated spots many miles separated, and lacking the requisite grandeur.



EXPLANATION: The circled spots in the Indian reservation which look like lakes, but aren't, show the way the little national park areas will be spotted around on the stream bottoms. These do not indicate actual locations; those are left for Secretary Fall to choose. Secretary Fall will also choose the spots in the Bad Lands and White Sands.

Neither do they want New Mexico to endure the stigma of introducing into the National Parks System the precedents which will destroy its sole difference from the National Forest System, namely, water power, irrigation, hunting, mining, grazing, leasing and lumbering.

Central and Northern New Mexico, where all the principal cities, most of the population, and all the scenery of National Parks' quality which the State contains are located, is heartily opposed to giving this park a place in the National Parks System. But, like the rest of the country, the great majority of New Mexicans appear to have no objection to Secretary Fall having his spotted park, provided only that he does not force it into the National Parks System.

New Mexico can have and must have a National Park of dignity, individuality and grandeur. State pride demands it and the nation needs it.

HOW NEW MEXICANS FEEL ABOUT IT

The following is part of a private letter from a citizen of Albuquerque, New Mexico:

"No one loves New Mexico better than I do. There is no doubt why I resent so keenly an effort like this All-Year Park bill to discredit her. I am a citizen, and taxpayer to the city, county, state and federal government, and feel that the state's true interests are decidedly my affair.

"Individuals, no matter how much opposed to the proposed All-Year location, feel that it is utterly useless to lift their voices; that wherever Secretary Fall wishes a park, it is a foregone conclusion that he will get it there; and they say: 'Well, since it seems impossible to get a park save in the southern part of the state, why not work for that? We'll at least get good roads down there.'

"To which I reply: 'Yes, good roads; and tourists will simply use them to get through and out of New Mexico just as quickly as possible; there's nothing to keep them down there in the southern part of the state!'

"Assuring you that your efforts in behalf of a fitting National Park for 'Fair New Mexico' are appreciated beyond words to express, I am, etc."

A PROTEST FROM BOSTON

A Group of Local Camping Grounds Does Not Make a National Park

The *Boston Evening Transcript* of July 27, 1922, carried the following editorial:

"If the Senate knew what it was doing when it lately passed the bill to create 'The All-Year National Park,' that action was not to its credit. If the House falls as easy a victim to the promoters of this legislation our National Park trademark will be materially cheapened through its bestowal upon a region that does not in any respect measure up to the superlative standard of the Yosemite, the Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, Mt. Rainier and our other world-famous scenic reservations. Moreover, the bill, in its present form, is a wide-open concession to those who have persistently clamored for the opportunity to exploit the commercial potentialities of the existing parks—their timber, their water powers, their grazing lands. With such a precedent as this bill would afford, if enacted, the pressure for a letting down of the bars raised to protect the older parks would be difficult to resist.

"It is disquieting to note that Secretary Fall of the Interior Department, who has hitherto shown an apparent appreciation of National Park standards, favored and urged the immediate adoption of this bill. At the request of Senator Bursum of New Mexico, who succeeded to Mr. Fall's seat when the latter became a cabinet officer, the bill was taken from the foot of the calendar by unanimous consent and passed, almost without debate, his plea being that it was a matter 'purely local in its character' and that it 'affects only New Mexico.' It is to be hoped that there will be those in the House who will challenge this assertion.

Park Making Not a Cross-Roads Affair

"The creation of a National Park is distinctly something more than a cross-roads affair. Especially is it of national importance when the project involves such radical departures from established standards as in this instance. It is not unnatural that New Mexico should desire a National Park within its territory, for the advertising value of these reservations has come to be generally appreciated in the Western States. Nor do they overlook the business advantage that follows in the wake of the ever-increasing volume of tourist traffic attracted by the parks. To this extent the proposed park is indeed a matter of purely local consequences.

"New Mexico is not without recognition in this field at present, several of the best of the national monuments being located within its borders. It is unlikely, too, that there may be other and larger areas, either in the Taos or Pecos mountains, or among the picturesque relics of the prehistoric peoples who formerly inhabited that region, any one of which might appropriately be made the subject for a national park establishment. It is difficult to understand how the people of New Mexico themselves would be content with a park such as the bill under consideration provides, made up as it is of a number of disconnected bits, with a total of perhaps ten square miles, several of them from thirty to seventy miles apart, in some cases with wide deserts intervening. It seems wholly improbable that the park would ever become anything more than a group of local camping grounds, such as many States, both East and West, are providing for themselves, or that it could be made an acceptable unit in the now world distinguished National Park System."

CALIFORNIA SPEAKS OUT

Sees in All-Year the Precedent for Ruining Her Own National Parks

The *Visalia Morning Delta*, Visalia, California, published the following editorial on August 16, 1922:

"Congress reconvened yesterday and no doubt an attempt will be made at the earliest possible moment to get action in the lower house on the proposed All-Year National Park, attention to which was called in these columns several days ago. The Senate passed the bill unanimously without giving it consideration, but in the House of Representatives there will probably be some interesting discussions before it comes to a vote.

"All other national parks represent well-known distinctive features in remarkable degree. The Yellowstone has its wonderful geysers, the Grand Canyon its magnificent cliffs and falls, the Sequoia its matchless forest; and the new candidate for divine honors is to consist of widely scattered and diminutive tracts in a commonplace and uninteresting region, remarkable only for the fact that it would take All Year to travel from one to all others.

"The fact that the many parcels are not specified in the bill is sufficient proof that there was not any one point worthy of note. The only part of the indefinitely suggested area that is clearly located is a reservoir 'and appurtenances' ninety miles distant from the remainder of the group and over which the national park service would have no authority. To include this reservoir in the park and leave it under the authority of the water power act would establish a precedent which might some day result in converting the canyons of Kings and Kern rivers into reservoirs and in ruining needlessly a considerable part of the Yellowstone Park. The people of the San Joaquin Valley and the State of California are now engaged in fighting against the Los Angeles power grab in the Grand Canyon of Kings River and have no desire to see the ability to ruin such scenic and recreational areas made easier.

"The nation expects the House of Representatives to do its duty."

SENATE PASSES A BILL A MINUTE

Special to the New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Record breaking business was recorded in the Senate today when 165 bills and resolutions were passed in about three hours, or at the rate of almost one a minute. The measures were disposed of as fast as presiding officers and overworked clerks could read the bills and go through the necessary routine.

The record, said to be a high-water level for either Senate or House during the present and several recent sessions, was made possible under a unanimous consent agreement for consideration only of unobjectionable bills. Absence of a large part of the Senate—only about a dozen Senators being present—also contributed to speedy action.

The above dispatch, culled from the *New York Times*, shows how easy it is, when the people are not looking, to pass the All-Year and Walsh bill kind of measures through an innocent enough Congress. If the All-Year Park bill had been referred to the Public Lands Committee, where it belonged, Senators there would have promptly objected to it. But referring it to the Indian Affairs Committee, which is not familiar with National Parks legislation, made its reporting easy. No one there saw reason to object, so they obliged the Secretary.

YELLOWSTONE CELEBRATES WITH A NEW GEYSER

The Semi-Centennial Geyser, Largest in the World, Breaks Unexpectedly Out of a Shallow Road-side Pool

FAILING the hoped-for visit from President Harding, Yellowstone National Park has celebrated her own semi-centennial, which is also that of the National Parks System, with a new geyser. It appeared without warning early in the morning of August 14, 1922, just west of the main road from Mammoth Hot Springs, south of Obsidian Cliff and a little north of Roaring Mountain. There are numerous signs in this general neighborhood of former hot-water activity.

Four eruptions the first day announced the new geyser's arrival and proclaimed it the largest in the world. Official observers believed that it attained a height of 300 feet. Old Faithful sometimes attains 200 feet, and the Giant, until now the world's largest geyser, is supposed to reach an occasional momentary height of 250 feet.

There has been no second eruption yet of the Semi-Centennial Geyser, as it has been called, so its regular height and its interval between eruptions are not determined.

Following is the official report made to Superintendent Horace N. Albright by Assistant Chief Ranger E. T. Scoyen:

Details of the Eruptions

"The following is a report of the new geyser that broke out on the Norris Road. The geyser crater is the old muddy pool five miles this side of Norris, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of Roaring Mountain. It is located about 20 feet from the west side of the road.

"The crater itself prior to the eruptions was about 30 ft. across, and except for the summer of 1919 when it had a few small eruptions, showed no indications of activity.

"The first eruption took place about 6:40 a. m. on August 14th. It was witnessed by Andrew Joss, driver of the sprinkler between Beaver Lake and Norris. That the eruption reached a great height cannot be doubted, as water and mud covered the trees 150 feet from the crater. During the rest of the morning and early afternoon there were a series of minor eruptions. At 3:20 there were two great eruptions in quick succession. I did not arrive until the eruption was over, but talked to several people and they claimed that it reached a height of 300 feet. This was easy to believe, as there is no geyser in the park at present that throws water so far from the crater in all directions. Park Ranger E. Matthew was the only National Park Service man present and he confirmed these statements.

"Tremendous as were these first two eruptions, they were completely eclipsed by an eruption that took place about 10:00 p. m. the same evening. Park Ranger Bauman and Mechanic Harry Marshall were present at this time. Their car was parked well outside the danger area of the two earlier eruptions, but they were forced to leave the car and run for safety. Rocks thrown out by the geyser ruined the top of the car although it was parked 150 feet from the crater.

Enormous Rocks Blown Out

"The results of this tremendous upheaval were plainly apparent the next morning. Chief Ranger Woodring and myself paced off the distance the water was thrown along the road. For 450 feet along the main highway it would have been unsafe for any person to stand, and a much greater area was affected by spray and light showers that

would have given any person a good soaking had he been standing within range. One rock weighing about 250 pounds was blown up in the middle of the road about 30 feet from the crater, while smaller rocks, tree stumps and other debris was scattered in all directions for about 200 feet from the crater. The crater was also enlarged about 20 feet. Not since the great eruptions of the Excelsior in 1888 has anything like this happened in the Yellowstone.

"The geyser evidently has three openings which must act together in order to give one of these powerful shots. Although I spent some time around the geyser, I never saw the three openings in action at once. The opening nearest the road is evidently the most powerful, but was seldom in action. I saw one eruption from two tubes that reached a height of about 125 feet but No. 3 showed no activity at this time.

"The character of the eruptions more nearly resemble the Grand than any other geyser, except that the water of the recent geyser is practically mud, while that of the Grand is clear. The newer geyser also throws a much larger volume of water. The general effect of a large globe of water rising out of the crater and then bursting in a dense column of water and steam, with the Gothic spire effect, is almost identical to the Grand.

"Since the big eruption on the 14th the activity has gradually lessened, and the crater is practically a quiescent pool at present."

How a Geyser Works

For many years geyser action remained a deep mystery; at last, of the many theories, Bunsen's won general acceptance. Spring waters, or surface waters seeping through porous lavas, gather thousands of feet below the surface in some pocket located in strata which internal pressures still keep hot. Boiling as they gather, the waters rise till they fill the long vent hole to the surface. Still the steam keeps making in the deep pocket, where it is held down by the weight of the water in the vent above. As it accumulates, the steam compresses more and more. The result is inevitable. There comes a moment when the expansive power of the compressed steam overcomes the weight above. Explosion follows. The steam, expanding now with violence, drives the water up the vent and out; nor is it satisfied till the vent is emptied.

Instantly the processes recommence. Under the surface, again the waters gather and boil in preparation for the next eruption. The interval till then will depend on the amount of water which reaches the deep pocket, the size of the pocket, and the length and shape of the vent hole. If conditions permit the upward escape of steam as fast as it makes in the pocket, we have a hot spring. If the steam makes faster than it can escape, we have a geyser.

The largest geyser known in history was the Excelsior. Its waters, probably, did not rise much over 150 feet, but the thickness of the rising body and the bulk of gushing water was prodigious. In 1888 the Excelsior Geyser blew up, ejecting an enormous amount of mud and rock torn from the linings of the vent; since then the Excelsior Geyser has been the Excelsior Hot Spring, the largest in Yellowstone and probably in the world.

If the Semi-Centennial establishes a regular height of 300 feet it will take the Giant's place as the largest geyser in the world.

